



The Weekly Page

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2

JANUARY 20, 2006

Pages Learn About Legislature

Board game simulates bill process.

On Monday, pages played a board game designed to simulate for them the process by which a bill becomes a law in Washington State. They came to understand that only about ten percent of the bills that are introduced actually become laws. They also experienced the frustration of having a bill “die” in the middle of the process.



Working Children!

Today, Representative Harold Adams introduced House bill 1999, which addresses the issue of child labor. “The bill is a good one because it helps poor families to pay for their taxes,” said Representative Harold Adams. This bill will allow children sixteen and under to work in real jobs to help their families pay for federal taxes. Children will get paid minimum wage in order to be fair. Children will work on their off hours so there is no conflict with education. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Enforcing New Smoking Law

Today, Representative Megan Aksamit introduced House bill 1990, which addresses the issue of enforcing less speeding on rural highways. “The bill is a good one because this will ensure the safety of other drivers, pedestrians, less accidents, and less racing,” said Representative Aksamit. This bill will enforce less speeding on rural highways by stationing three law enforcement officers on all rural highways. If the driver is caught speeding the first time they would receive a warning, the second time is a ticket of \$150 dollars, the third time they will have their license

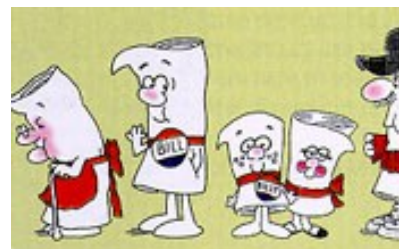
taken away for three months and will have to pay a fee of \$90 to get the license back. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 18, 2006.

Safer Roads Lead To Bill Proposal

Today, Representative Tarin Alford introduced House bill 2456, which addresses the issue of lack of reflection with roadway paint. “The bill is a good one because the number of deaths due to poor roadways is something I strongly believe can be avoided. After all, the guessing game should not be something that applies to driving,” said Representative Alford. This bill will require all major roadways to put a reflective bead or crushed glass into the paint calling for a \$.25 tax on driver registration. If a driver refuses to pay the small tax they shall be denied registration in the State of Washington. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/18/06.

I’m Just A Bill video provides review of bill process

After playing the Bill Process Game, pages viewed the video *I’m Just A Bill*. Many of them stated that they remembered viewing this in elementary school. This short video accurately illustrates all of the steps in the process.



Enforcing New Age Requirement For Acquiring A Driver’s License

Today, Senator Sam Anglesey introduced Senate bill 7826, which addresses the issue of changing the minimum age required to acquire any one person’s driver’s license from 16 to 17. “The bill is a good one because this will allow young drivers to gain more driving experience before being trusted on the

road alone,” said Senator Anglesey. The bill establishes a new law that only drivers 17 years old and up are allowed to drive without the supervision of a parent or guardian. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/18/06.

Downloading Music... It's Harmless!

Today, Representative Jessi Bailey introduced House bill 1292, which addresses the issue of legalizing downloading music onto your computer. “The bill is a good one because people want to be able to share music and share files. You should be able to download music so that you don't have to buy a whole CD when you just want to listen to a song,” said Representative Jessi Bailey. I will make it a law that file sharing among everybody who owns a computer will be allowed. By law, people will be able to download music freely. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 18, 2006.

Enforcing New Smoking Law

Today, Senator Blake Baldwin introduced Senate bill 8998, which addresses the issue of enforcing the new smoking law of smoking outside. “The bill is a good one because this will allow restaurants and other public buildings to have a better atmosphere and citizens will not take in as much second hand smoke,” said Senator Baldwin. The bill enforces the new law of smoking outside and away from public buildings. If a smoker chooses to ignore the law, they will not be warned but will be fined. If a police officer decides to not enforce the law, then the officer will receive a fine as well. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Pages write bills

Each page wrote a bill designed to solve a problem. Topics for bills included driving age, noise control, fewer school hours for high-schools students, and cell-phone use. They reflect real issues that affect teen-age lives in Washington State. Bills were printed so pages can keep them.

WASL no longer graduation requirement

Today, Senator Brianna Behar introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of the graduation requirement of passing the WASL. “The bill is a good one because it allows students

to graduate and does not punish them for their schools' mistakes,” said Senator Behar. This bill will take away the WASL only as a required test to pass. If a school does not meet the required percentage of passing students than they will lose control of their budget. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Sixteen-year-old voters proposed

Today, Representative Andrew Benton introduced House bill 1982, which addresses the issue of allowing people the right to vote if they're sixteen. “The bill is a good one because it puts a stop to taxation without representation,” said Representative Andrew Benton. The bill will allow citizens of 16 minimum to vote. The issue was brought up because many sixteen and seventeen year old employees are being taxed on their income, without having a say in the government. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Abortion Is A Big Crime!

Today, Senator Pavel Boyer introduced Senate bill 5600, which addresses the issue of abortions. “The bill is a good one because it helps you understand that all children are very important to you,” said Senator Boyer. You have to believe that a baby is not just something, he is a miracle. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Pages lobby their own bills

Pages practiced lobbying techniques as they encouraged their colleagues to support their bills in committee hearings. They created posters and completed media releases.

School Start Time Changed

Today, Representative Thomas Brissenden introduced House bill 3999, which addresses the issue of school start times. "The bill is a good one because you get more quality work from the students affected because they would not be as tired in the mornings," said Representative Thomas Brissenden. This bill would switch the times of high school to 9:00am-3:00pm and elementary school to 7:30am-2:10pm. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Safety Streets

Today, Representative Erica Carriker introduced House bill 3119, which addresses the issue of Criminal Justice and Corrections. "The bill is a good one because children/teenagers will be safer if they have a street limit to be home by a designated time of 9:30 pm. All young adults under the age of 17 years of age shall follow this bill. This will reduce the crimes of under age drinking, drugs, sexual acts, robbery and a low chance of rape or molestation," said Representative Erica Carriker. The bill if accepted will create a low rating of illegal crimes place at night. Danger to young adults such as rape. Young adults are only to be allowed after time period on the street with a parent/guardian and is safe from danger at all times.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Died Even Though Innocent

Today, Representative Gabriel Castaneda introduced House bill 3887, which addresses the issue of smoking in parks. "The bill is a good one because it will save your children from breathing second-hand smoke," said Representative Castaneda. This bill is so the next generation won't have health issues. There will be no smoking signs in all parks where children play, and anyone who violates the law will be fined. The bill will be passed so your children do not die of something that they didn't do. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Committees debate bills, vote

Pages participated in simulated committee hearings on Wednesday. They read their bills and 'committee' members, governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, debated the pros and cons of the bills. When pages voted on bills, some ideas were passed

on to an imagined legislative body, while others "died" in committee.

Enforcing Poaching

Today, Senator Daniel Ceballos introduced Senate bill 5863, which addresses the issue of water, energy & environment. "The bill is a good one because it reduces the death of animals," said Senator Daniel Ceballos. The bill will cut down the death of animals. The bill will also provide information. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/18/06.

Soda In Schools Banned?!

Today, Representative Abby Christensen introduced House bill 2637, which addresses the issue of soda in schools being banned from being sold on school grounds during school hours. "The bill is a good one because children will be healthier without the influence of drinking soda," said Representative Christensen. Kids can still bring soda to their school, but all soda machines will be taken off the grounds. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 18, 2006.



Justice Now!

Today, Representative Alexandra Dahl introduced House bill 1115, which addresses the issue of innocent people going to jail. "The bill is a good one because it prevents punishment from being heaved onto the wrong person's shoulders," said Representative Alexandra Dahl. Extra and more thorough investigations will take place to ensure that the right person(s) go(es) to jail or receives punishment for the committed crime. Evidence will be double-checked and if a person cannot be proved guilty then they will be released within 10-15 days depending on the crime. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Rodne, Hunter, Swecker visit, speak, answer questions

Representative Jay Rodne R-5; Representative Ross Hunter D-48; and Senator Dan Swecker R-20 joined the pages during their classes on Thursday. Each of them told students about how they came to be involved in politics and what led them to their current positions, and they discussed issues they are work-

ing on during this session. Pages were able to interact with these guests.



Rep Jay Rodne Rep. Ross Hunter Sen. Dan Swecker

Bill Enhances Security At State Capitol

Today, Senator Brandon Fagerlie introduced Senate bill 6563, which addresses the issue of Judiciary. "The bill is a good one because it makes the Capitol a better place to be," said Senator Brandon Fagerlie. This bill makes the Capitol more secure and safe. This bill will make it a better place for everyone. This bill will also make it a good safe place for the workers so they can feel comfortable. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

You Want To Drink? Fine.

Today, Representative Sarah Fernandes introduced House bill 3789, which addresses the issue of underage drinking. "The bill is a good one because it will help children have healthier bodies and teach them that there are consequences to their actions," said Representative Sarah Fernandes. This bill will make underage drinkers take an alcohol-prevention and awareness class as well as pay fines or do 10 hours of community service. Breathalyzer tests will become more frequent at schools and underage drinkers with driving permits or licenses will get them suspended for up to a year. This bill will help reduce the number of drunk driving accidents. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Millions Of Babies Killed!

Today, Senator Robin Griffith introduced Senate bill 5015, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because it is just wrong, and it is not healthy for the woman," said Senator Griffith. This bill is against abortion because abortion is some-

thing that needs to be stopped. It (this bill) will make any person who performs an abortion automatically eligible to be arrested at any time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Providing Breaks For Island Residents

Today, Representative Natalie Groce introduced House bill 1990, which addresses the issue of whether or not residents of island communities should have to pay peak season ferry fees. "The bill is a good one because it provides rate reductions for residents without raising the rates for everyone else," said Representative Natalie Groce. This bill includes requiring all residence owners and those building new homes to purchase a pass for \$20 dollars which will be passed from owner to owner. This pass when presented at a ticket booth will exclude the holder and all family members from seasonal fees. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Budget debate stirs emotions

Using actual state budget figures, pages debated how to balance the state's operating budget. Their task was to make up a \$3 billion deficit. "Is it always this hard?" asked a page as the debate intensified.

Our Kids Aren't Getting The Education They Deserve!

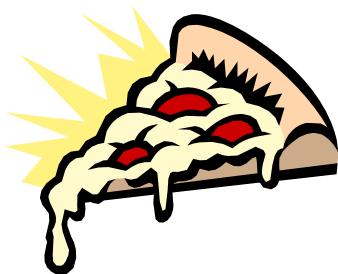
Today, Representative Hopkins introduced House bill 1017, which addresses the issue of faculty -o-student ratios in our schools. "The bill is a good one because our children are the future. They deserve a quality education. Many of them attend large schools. Often times the school is too impersonal. Students skip classes and nobody notices. Their grades start to drop and nobody cares. They lose their enthusiasm for learning and nobody is there to inspire them. We need to do something about it," said Representative Hopkins. This bill provides incentives for schools to increase the number of faculty per student. There will be more attention given to the students, and they will be inspired to do great things, like be a page here in Olympia. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Jail: Consequence Or Reward?

Today, Senator Samantha Gwazdauskas introduced Senate bill 6432, which addresses the issue of Jail Treatment. "The bill is a good one because allows those who have committed the same crime to be treated equally, not to be discriminated by class or amount of money they have," said Senator Samantha Gwazdauskas. This bill will allow the use of money earned while on the campus, this will disable the use of money earned previous to sentence. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Pages celebrate, mingle at Thursday pizza party

Thursday afternoon, pages took a break from their regular duties and socialized with each other while eating pizza. This was an opportunity for House and Senate pages to mingle.



An easier way for drivers training.

Today, Senator Kristine Louise Knudson introduced Senate bill 5277, which addresses the issue of Driving Permits. "The bill is a good one because it simplifies the Licensing process to the benefit of customers and examiners," said Senator Kristine Louise Knudson. This bill makes it so all students at the age of 15 may receive a permit with out being enrolled in drivers training or taking the written driving test. This bill does not affect the process in which any citizen receives their license. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Drunk Driving

Today, Senator Louis Lefebvre introduced Senate bill 6291, which addresses the issue of drunk driving. "The bill is a good one because drunk drivers are responsible for killing thousands," said Senator Louis Lefebvre. This bill is helpful to our society and for the government. This bill will make the laws harsher for people who are caught driving under the influence. The government will be helped because they will have more money to spend protecting our citizens. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

"Smoking Put Out?!"

Today, Representative Marissa Lewis introduced House bill 3998, which addresses the issue of underage smoking. "The bill is a good one because more health problems will be prevented," said Representative Lewis. If this bill passes, undercover police officers will be placed by certain locations to enforce these laws. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Jeopardy creates hit

On Friday, pages tested their knowledge of the Legislative process in a spirited game of *Jeopardy*. Winning teams were awarded certificates and brightly colored stickers that they wore proudly for the rest of the day.



Driving With Distractions

Today, Senator Kristen Maki introduced Senate bill 9856, which addresses the issue of cell phone use while driving. "The bill is a good one because the use of cell phones while driving causes a lack of concentration and an increase in reckless driving maneuvers," said Senator Maki. This bill, if passed, will cause offenders a \$200 fine on first offense and a misdemeanor reckless driving charge on second offense. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



The Use Of Cell Phones

Today, Senator Colin McClure introduced Senate bill 6222, which addresses the issue of the use of cell phones in a public surrounding. "The bill is a good one because cell phones are disruptive inside public surroundings to others," said Senator McClure. This bill consists of the use of a cell phone or pager inside a public surrounding. It is a major problem because it disrupts all of the coworkers or employees of that particular

public surrounding. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Cell Phones While Driving Is Unsafe And A Hazard.

Today, Senator Lindsay McCoy introduced Senate bill 6580, which addresses the issue of cell phone use while driving. "The bill is a good one because there have been many car accidents that were caused by drivers who weren't paying attention to the road. Cell phones seem to be everywhere now, and in some cases are hazards while driving. Driving should be safe for everyone. An example would be what happened to my own uncle who was hit by a driver on a cell phone while walking in a cross walk," said Senator Lindsay McCoy. We know that car accidents happen everyday. There can be many reasons for crashes and accidents like alcohol, cell phones, underage driving, etc. Today I am addressing the issue of cell phones. I have had a member of my family who has experienced the issue of drivers on cell phones and to me, has become quite a hazard. We all agree that cell phones become more and more used each day and let us stay in touch with those we know. Many employed citizens use them for business purposes as well, which is why I would like to also address the possibility of headsets being safer. Handheld phones do not usually allow you to drive very well having to hold the phone instead of the steering wheel. If to become law, signs shall be put up to show that handheld cell phones while driving are not permitted but headsets are allowed for employed workers. For the citizens who do not follow the law shall be charged with a fine and a possible ban from cell phone service for 6 months. This is my goal to keep drivers and pedestrians safer on the road and still allow phone communication for employees. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Page School on the web

The Page School has its own web site. You can find us at: www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/PageSchool/. This newsletter has been posted there.



Domestic Violence Kills

Today, Representative Jonathan Munday introduced House bill 1010, which addresses the issue of Domestic Violence. "The bill

is a good one because it will deter the crime of domestic violence, and will prove to aggressors that they will receive no mercy when it comes to their punishment," said Representative Munday. Punishments will be based on the number of offenses committed, and they will become harsher as the number increases. This will help the victims by mandating counseling to help them and teach them that they don't have to be a victim of this dastardly crime. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Gay Rights

Today, Representative Lucas Nolta introduced House bill 1233, which addresses the issue of Gay Rights. "The bill is a good one because it allows all business to be able to up hold their moral beliefs," said Representative Nolta. Say for example that someone of the homosexual orientation wants to get a job at a Christian bookstore. The beliefs of the homosexual individual come into direct conflict with those held by the proprietors of the organization. Certain behaviors are not acceptable if you want to get certain jobs and this law allows businesses to be able to deny employment based on certain "unacceptable behaviors". The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Page School teachers

Page School's 2006 teachers are (l-r): Paul Prociv, BJ Lutz, and Vicky Whinnery.



School Nap-Time!

Today, Representative Brandon Oppenheim introduced House bill 1666, which addresses the issue of school nap-time. "The bill is a good one because with school nap-time, kids wouldn't be so tired all the time. They would have more energy for school activities, they wouldn't be so grumpy, and they would be more alert, which could raise their test scores," said Representative Oppenheim. This bill will add a one-hour nap-time in school. The school decides what time it will be, but it must be before lunch. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Watch Out For New Patrols

Today, Representative Anna Pennington introduced House bill 1160, which addresses the issue of drivers speeding in residential areas. "The bill is a good one because it will keep pedestrians and other drivers/passengers safe," said Representative Pennington. This bill will keep drivers from speeding in residential areas. Drivers caught speeding will be given a ticket. The ticket is the same amount as if you had been caught speeding anywhere else. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Pittman Fights For The "Right To Life"

Today, Senator Tavia Pittman introduced Senate bill 6182, which addresses the issue of abortion. "The bill is a good one because unborn children will be given the second chance to live. They will be given a future, and (if adopted) another family to love and care for them," said Senator Tavia Pittman. This bill, concerning abortions, will increase the number of Americans today and will stop the killing off of unborn children. We need to stop and consider the possibilities of what the un-born children have ahead of them, if they are given the right to life. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

The Fight For Gay Marriage

Today, Senator Brittany Pritchard introduced Senate bill 5138, which addresses the issue of Gay Marriage. "The bill is a good one because gay men and women should have the right to marry just like every straight American," said Senator Pritchard. This bill allows all gay couples, whether they are men or women, to marry in a court of law. Bill 5138 states that, "no state employee may discriminate against a gay couple by refusing to marry them." This bill will become effective 60 days after signature by the Governor. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Car Crash Rates Rising Because Of Cell Phones

Today, Representative Andy Reilly introduced House bill 3454, which addresses the issue of talking on your cell phone while driving. "The bill is a good one because it can help make roads safer," said Representative Andy Reilly. This bill is to ban talking

on cell phones while driving. In order to make sure the law holds out, there will be a two hundred dollar fine against people caught talking on a phone and driving. Twenty five percent of the money from fines will go to people harmed in car accidents because of the driver talking on a phone. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Save Mother Nature!

Today, Senator Kathryn Rice introduced Senate bill 7766, which addresses the issue of Environment and Animals. "The bill is a good one because we need trees to live, without them there will be no more oxygen to breathe! Also, my kids don't have any backyard to play in anymore, our greenbelt was taken away," said Citizen Bill Ricard. Forests provide protection and shade to everyone. It also is a home to animals. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 18, 2006.

Teenage Driving

Today, Senator Caitlin Sevey introduced Senate bill 5025, which addresses the issue of removing the law of waiting six months until teens may be allowed to drive with anybody of their choice in their car. "The bill is a good one because it doesn't only have a positive affect on teenage drivers, but it also can increase the safety of all other drivers on the roadways," said Senator Sevey. This bill gives teen students with a G.P.A. of 3.5 or above the privilege of having the responsibility to choose who they allow in their vehicle and allows them to have a little more independence. It might also promote more teens to car-pool to school together which would lessen traffic. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/18/06.



Historical pages

Our legislature has employed pages for many years. This photo is of pages who served in past years. The first female page served in 1937.

Permanent Education

Today, Senator Cori Smith introduced Senate bill 5421, which addresses the issue of High School Substitutes. "The bill is a good one because it helps ensure proper education," said Senator Smith. High school substitutes that will substitute for a semester or longer must require a degree in the subject they are teaching. If not, their teaching may affect the students' education, grade point averages, and a student's success in similar classes. High school grades stay on record and will determine academic scholarships. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Text Messages Can Save Lives

Today, Senator Brandy Winter introduced Senate bill 7888, which addresses the issue of Code Adams or Amber Alerts. "The bill is a good one because the word about missing or abducted children will get out faster," said Senator Brandy Winter. By using text messaging, the phone companies will send out the message that the government is issuing a Code Adam or an Amber Alert. Most people can easily turn off the radio or TV, or look away on the highway when they see a sign, but knowing most people with Cell Phones they cannot go one minute without checking their messages. This will hopefully cut down on abductions and will get everyone to look for a child in the description mentioned on the Cell Phone. They can save the message to look at the information when they believe they'll need it. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.



Stop Smoking Now

Today, Senator Melissa Walter introduced Senate bill 5555, which addresses the issue of smoking. "The bill is a good one because it prevents illness such as cancer and death from cancer. If the illness is down it will cut costs on health insurance," said Senator Melissa Walter. Tobacco plants will no longer be grown and will not be sold. There will be no smoke shops or selling of smoking products anywhere at anytime. If the crime is committed there will be punishments from tickets to jail time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/18/06.

Younger Voters Proposed

Today, Representative Greg Woodman introduced House bill 1002, which addresses the issue of the lowering of the voting age. "The bill is a good one because it provides a voice to younger people," said Representative Woodman. Because in the state of Washington only 55% of registered voters actually vote, this bill would boost that number. Since citizens of that age are taxed anyway, they should at the very least have a voice in who is taxing them. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.

Faster Speed Limits On Highways Safer And Better?

Today, Representative Daniel Zapotocky introduced House bill 2349, which addresses the issue of the increase of speed on the highway. "The bill is a good one because it will solve many of the travel times in the state," said Representative Daniel Zapotocky. The bill he brought up would solve the problem of moving too slow on the highway, taking hours of time to get to a destination. If enacted, this bill would increase the speed limit on the highways of Washington to 75 or maybe even 80 miles per hour. Daniel is hopeful that this bill will improve the state's economy and highway safety. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 18, 2006.